IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: van As et al.

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this document and all accompanying documents are, on the date indicated below, being deposited with the Postal Service using "Express Mail" service in an envelope addressed in the same manner indicated on this document with Exp. Mail Label Number EV 419250791 US, deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in a envelope addressed in the same manner indicated on this document, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Tradema Office at fax number: (571) 273-8300. Name (Print/Type) Jacquelyn Hurd		LING/TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE UNI		
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